

Description

[SWIVEL PAD PAINTER]

BACKGROUND OF INVENTION

[0001] The painting tool of this invention is capable of operating in a swivel mode through 360° as well as being locked in a fixed position. The swivel mode permits an increase in speed of painting and is particularly effective when an extension pole is attached to the handle. The painting tool involves but is not restricted to pad painters and spatter guard rollers.

[0002] The prior art includes applicators which have a mechanism to move the applicator to another fixed position with regard to the handle or a type of ratchet wherein the applicator can be moved to a number of fixed positions but all in the same vertical plane.

[0003] The prior art includes patent publication 2002/0148057 to Hobden which discloses an adjustable handle for a paint pad. The handle can be pivoted a selected number of degrees relative to the pad holder plate and includes a lock sleeve that can be used for locking the handle in se-

lected angular positions relative to the plate.

- [0004] Patent 4,219,899 to Zurawin discloses a paint support and handle assembly wherein the handle is mounted for swinging movement of about 90°. A spring clip is used for biasing the handle in a given direction.
- [0005] Also of interest are patents 6,305,043 and 6,073,298. No patents disclose applicant's unique design which swivels through 360° and improves the speed and efficiency of painting.

SUMMARY OF INVENTION

- [0006] This invention relates to painting tool such as a pad painter which may be operated in a unique swivel mode. The pad painter is marketed under the name WORK FAST by Brenner International Corp. The pad range of motion is extended to 360°. The pad painter comprises a pad affixed to an elongated plastic member or pad plate having channel members along the sides thereof to receive the handle coupling member. The upper coupling member is mounted to the elongated plastic member and includes a centrally located upwardly projecting threaded portion. The threaded portion includes a centrally located socket joint of a hemispherical configuration within the projecting member.

- [0007] The handle includes an elongated configured upper portion and a curved portion at one end thereof terminating in a slotted ball or sphere. An internally threaded cap having a central aperture is slidably mounted over the curved end portion. The cap is screwed onto the threaded upper coupling member locking the ball within the socket and permitting the ball with the handle to swivel about the socket. The pad painter may swivel at any angle. This swivel mode permits an increase in the speed of painting. A unique tab is also used on the pad painter to facilitate taking a refill on and off.
- [0008] Accordingly, an object of this invention is to provide a new and improved pad painter.
- [0009] Another object of this invention is to provide a pad painter wherein the handle may operate in a swivel mode extending the range of motion.
- [0010] A further object of this invention is to provide a new and improved pad painter or other painting tool wherein the handle may be locked in a fixed position or swivel to any other position within 360°.
- [0011] A still further object of this invention is to provide a new and improved pad painter having a unique tab arrangement to couple refills to the handle and facilitate changing

pads.

[0012] A more specific object of this is to provide a new and improved pad painter having a handle with a ball at one end which engages a recessed socket joint on a coupling member to which the pad is mounted to permit operating the pad painter in either a 360° swivel mode or in a fixed position.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

[0013] The above and other object and advantages of the invention may be more clearly seen when viewed in conjunction with the accompanying drawings wherein:

[0014] FIG. 1 is an exploded view of the pad painter comprising the invention.

[0015] FIG. 2 is a front perspective view of a pad assembly ,

[0016] FIG. 3 is an exploded view of an edger trimmer including the invention, and.

[0017] FIG. 4 is a perspective view of the edge trimmer base of the invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0018] A unique pad painter 10 comprises an elongated woven or fabric pad 11 as shown in FIG. 2, having a sponge-like base 12 secured thereto on one side. A plastic member 13

having channel side portions 16a, 16b extending upwardly at an angle is mounted to the base 12 with adhesive 14 to form a unitary structure 15. Refills of the pad structure 15 may be mounted to the handle arrangement when appropriate.

[0019] One of the side portions 16a includes a cut-away section 17 while the side portions 16a, 16b basically serve as guides for the handle base or coupling member 18. The member 18 includes tapered edges 19a, 19b which engage the side portions 16a, 16b and a tab 20 which is positioned on a cutaway portion 27 of side portion 16a. The tab 20 engages the cutaway section 17 on the side portion 16a to lock the pad structure 15 and handle base 18 together.

[0020] The handle base structure 18 extends upwardly in the center thereof to form a lower circular portion 21 concentrically located about a circular threaded inner portion 22 which extends upwardly therefrom. The upper surface 30 includes a plastic layer 23 and a hemispherical recess or socket 24 which engages a ball 25 on the end of the handle 26. The ball 25 includes a plurality of latitudinal slots 27 about the surface thereof, a solid base 28 and a solid portion 29 which is coupled to a curved portion 31 of the

handle 26. The curved portion 31 joins a handle portion 32 which extends to flange 33 and then beyond said flange 33 with an enlarged elongated portion 34. A shaped rubber handle 35 is mounted over the portion 34 and terminates at the end portion 36 which includes an internally threaded recess 37 for poles and various extensions.

[0021] An internally threaded cap or nut 38 is located and held in place between the flange 33 and the ball 25. The cap 38 includes an internal circular washer 39 which engages the upper surface 30 to lock the pad painter 10 in position as a unit. The cap 38 may be loosened to permit the handle 34 to swivel within a total range of 360°. The swivel mode permits an increase in the speed of painting. This swivel mode is particularly effective with an extension pole attached to the handle 26 at end 36. The fixed mode is used when a precise stroke is required. While described with regard to a pad painter 10, the swivel design may also be employed with spatter guard paint rollers, edgers, etc. A further advantage of the invention mentioned previously is the tab design which permits rapid replacement of pads 15.

[0022] In operation, a pad structure 15 is mounted on the handle

by sliding the tapered edges 19a, 19b of the handle base structure 18 within the channels 16a, 16b. The tab 20 engages cutaway section 17 to lock the parts 15 and 18 together. A lock tab 20 may be provided at each end. The cap 38 is then threaded onto the recessed portion 22 locking the handle ball 25 in recess 24. The ball 25 may be locked in a fixed position or may be permitted to swivel through 360° to speed up painting. This novel approach is nowhere shown in the prior art.

[0023] FIG. 3 discloses an exploded view of an edger trimmer embodiment 40 of the invention. The base 42 however includes a pair of guide wheels 41a, 41b rotatably mounted to the base 42 within respective curved raised portions 43a, 43b. Channel portions 44a, 44b on the sides of the base 42 engage a sponge pad (not shown). As with the preferred embodiment of FIG. 1, the base 42 includes a raised threaded portion 45 having a recessed socket 46. The handle 47 includes a rubber grip 48 at one end plus an internally threaded aperture 50 for extension handles and a slotted ball 49 at the other end. A cap or nut 51 and a washer 52 are mounted over the handle ball 49 to secure the ball 49 within the socket 46 and permit rotation of the base. The threads 53 engage the threads 45 to se-

cure ball 49 in the socket 46.

[0024] While the invention has been explained by a detailed description of certain specific embodiments, it is understood that various modifications and substitutions can be made in any of them within the scope of the appended claims, which are intended also to include equivalents of such embodiments.